

# THE CANADIAN RAILROADER

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## CANADA'S BAN ON MY BOOK

*By Robert Blatchford*

## AN INTERNATIONAL OF IDEAS

*By J. A. Stevenson*

## OTTAWA, LONDON and SCOTTISH LETTERS

*From Our Own Correspondents*

Official Organ,  
Fifth Sunday  
Meeting Association  
of Canada

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# THE TARIFF BOARD

At last the tariff board idea seems to have taken deep root in all sections of the Dominion. The interest awakened in this important issue is attributed to the sound sense and the progressiveness of the Canadian people. Although in many instances the newspapers qualify their endorsement, the equivocations are unimportant and in no wise endanger the basic principle of a scientific tariff board. All thinkers and students are favorable to the idea of a tariff based upon scientific research and careful analysis. The haphazard methods of the past are recognized to be incompatible with the growth and development to which we are all looking forward in Canada. Among the many communications which have come to hand is a particularly interesting one from the Canadian Council of Agriculture, signed by the Vice-President, Mr. R. M. Mackenzie, which reads as follows:—

"The Canadian Railroader" in its issue of December 20th had an article entitled "Labor and the Tariff." After pointing out the attitude of Labor Unions and manufactures toward the establishment of a permanent 'Tariff Board' by the Dominion Government, you say:—"It still remains to be seen what the farmer group will do. Are they willing to make similar concessions or do they want a revision which will bring into the country, duty free, all the principal articles which they use, while the things they have to sell enjoy protection"

"The farmers' organizations have placed themselves on record on a deputation to the Dominion Government in 1910 as being in favor of placing 'all foodstuffs on the free list.' They have since consistently advocated the removal of customs duties from all foodstuffs so as to reduce the cost of living to that extent. I am enclosing you a copy of the New National Policy as revised at the last meeting of the Canadian Council of Agriculture, so as to meet some changes that had been effected since the New National Policy had been first published in 1918. This will give you a clear insight into the attitude of the farmers on protection on what they have to sell.

"Whatever the farmers' organization may be accused of, they cannot justly be charged with wanting any privileges for their own product. I feel sure that when you are acquainted with the facts of the case you will put the matter right before your readers."

ficially asked for any protection which would give special privileges to the farmer class. Admitting our error then, on this particular question, we are still interested to know what will be the attitude of the farmers toward the Tariff Board. Are they willing to make the same concessions that labor has made; is the farmer movement ready to take the middle course as Labor has done? Even the manufacturer has modified his position from the high protectionist to that of a Tariff Board adherent, while the farmer devotedly remains attached to the opposite extreme of free trade. It is all very well to say that Canadian industries would continue to thrive under free trade, but those who have made accurate studies of the question, those who have had careful regard for industrial facts and conditions, are certain that a greater number of Canadian manufacturers would be annihilated under free trade. The attitude of labor, therefore, has been for the establishment of a tariff board which could remove such danger where it threatened, and level tariffs where they tended toward monopoly and

the American people to organize on vast lines. These workmen realize that the young Canada industries serving a comparatively small population scattered over vast areas could hardly hope to compete with the over-flow from the great industrial institutions in the States when once the world shortage has been supplied. Experts generally agree that the power of production in the States has increased at least four-fold. It will not be long before vast surpluses will be seeking new markets, and, under free trade, Canada would become the most convenient reservoir for this great tidal wave of swollen production. The first to flounder about in this swirling eddy would be the Canadian workmen. Judging by the resolutions which have been signed by the workers throughout the Dominion, the Canadian worker has no liking for this kind of swim. The middle course, the tariff board, is labor's course.

There are lorelei warbling the most enchanting songs from the perfume-scented shores, and yet the Canadian workman prefers to pin his faith upon a fixed star and a definite compass. The lute songs of the sirens, are very alluring, but before labor embarks in the unknown sea of free trade, there will need to be many soundings, and every uncharted rock will need to be known. There is too much at stake to go careening on rough waters in a cranky cockle-shell even if the sirens sing ever so sweetly from balmy shores. Our anchor is the tariff board.

George Pierce.

In 1925

"Our cause has made wonderful progress in the last decade", remarked the first suffragette.

"It certainly has" agreed the second suffragette. "Why, just think only ten years ago a man was considered as good as a woman in this country".—The Patrolman.

BUT WHY NOT HALF WAY ?



Another ship-load to Europe might help.

—Chicago Daily News.

From the foregoing it is evident that we are in error in suggesting that the farmers were looking for special privileges to protect their own products. Subsequent investigations which we have made indicate that while there are many farmers in Ontario and other provinces who desire protection against seasonable products from America and other countries, the Canadian Council of Agriculture have not of-

when they proved to be superfluous.

There are not many working men in Canada who are willing to risk their homes on the theory that Canadian industries are sufficiently advanced to survive free trade. Many Canadian workmen have been employees in the mammoth industrial institutions of the United States, developed under high protection, with enormous capital coupled with the ability of

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## VIOLATION OF FREEDOM

**Western Raids For Books And Papers Indefensible:  
Robert Blatchford's Answer To Canadian  
Banning Of His Work On  
"Merrie England"**

**T**HE Grain Growers' Guide of Winnipeg saves us the trouble of writing an editorial protesting against the violation of Canadian freedom as expressed in the Government's western raids on public and private libraries, and the banning of books such as Robert Blatchford's "Merrie England". Here is the Guide's editorial on the subject, which is our sentiment to a T:—

"The people of Canada will not be true to their instincts, their traditions, and their just rights, as a free, self-governing people, if they do not demand, and insist upon getting, an explanation from Ottawa, in regard to the arbitrary proceedings that have taken place recently, months after the cessation of hostilities, in the invasion of private houses, colleges and libraries, under the provisions of an order-in-council framed explicitly for war-time conditions, the seizure of books and papers, and the sentencing of individuals to terms of imprisonment for having in their possession literature under the war-time ban of the censorship.

"In Alberta, and in Ontario, these searches, arrests, confiscations and punishments have been carried out in a manner which would have been more in keeping with the old methods of the old autocratic regime in Russia than with the institutions of government in this free country.

"It is a fundamental maxim of democracy and freedom that the citizen who is truly loyal to his responsibilities of citizenship will not consent to arbitrary measures. The price of liberty and of justice is unceasing vigilance. It is the duty of the elected representatives of the people in parliament to bring this matter up for full and free discussion, and to compel the government to declare itself plainly and without equivocation. Such bureaucratic methods of absolutism can have no right place on Canadian soil. The whole situation is one that must be cleared up at the earliest possible moment.

"The same spirit which the Canadian people manifested in submitting loyally to the restrictions imposed upon their liberties by the all-compelling necessities of the war, demands now that there shall be absolute maintenance of all the constitutional and loyal safeguards of liberty, which are the very life-blood of our existence as a free people. We are not a free people if in time of peace we are not free to read, or even to have in our possession, books or papers discussing political, social, economic, or industrial questions in a manner disapproved of by some bureaucrat at Ottawa.

"The governmental system of Canada is the creation of the free people of Canada. It is not the master. It must not be allowed to assume a dictatorship over the people of Canada in any respect."

### WHAT I THINK OF IT

By ROBERT BLATCHFORD

A Canadian (Calgary) reader sends us the amusing information that our book "Merrie England" has been seized by mounted police in some of the Canadian Public Libraries as being "unfit for publication". It appears that the democratic protectors of the Canadian morality regard Socialism as a wild revolutionary theory of plunder and confiscation. Our correspondent expresses the hope that we will defend Socialism against these aspersions. Certainly.

Socialism is not a system of universal confiscation. Nothing of the sort. It is a plan of re-organization. The anti-Socialist, in terror lest he should lose his contemptible "gentility", or his miserable fleshpots, is very prone to call out, "Stop thief"! But Socialists are not thieves. As I before observed, they are policemen.

Let us take a few examples. Many of our towns and cities—Sutherland amongst them—have acquired the trams. Did they steal

them? No. Did they rob anybody in the process of transfer? Not a soul. They bought the trams and the lines at a price above their value; and they made them pay better and work better, and afford better wages and more rest to the tram workers by dint of superior management.

What is the holiest principle of the non-Socialist commercial system? Competition. If one employer can defeat another employer, that is the real right thing. The victor gets rich, and buys bad pictures, and builds ugly mansions; and the defeated goes to the bankruptcy court, or the workhouse, or the devil and all is right as right can be.

And it is equally right and equally beneficial and lovely when the Amalgamated Cloggers Company, Limited, wipe out the clogging establishments of Smaggs, and Sons, and of Briggs Brothers, etc., etc.

And it is ditto, ditto when the Cloggers Trust comes along and ruins the Amalgamated. And, of course, the Trust's clogs are always unrivalled, and the clog wearer's heart is glad within him. Selah!

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Now, in all these cases there is no talk about confiscation. It is just honest and healthy competition.

Well: Where is the confiscation if the people of England, or of Leeds, or of Lancashire decide to make their own clogs?

We have in this country a number of superior persons, "captains of industry", "managing" our business for us. These men are doubtless very clever, but they are tremendously dear. Suppose the people of England think they can manage their own business more cheaply by engaging able men at lower salaries than the captains of industry pay themselves. Is there any moral, or political, or social, or logical reason why the people of England should be compelled to go on paying immense sums to the said captains? If it is not confiscation for Sir William McNab to sack a manager and engage one at half salary, how can it be confiscation for the people of England to sack McNab?

Messrs. Wooley, Shoddy, and Serapp manufacture blankets, sell them to the public, and make a fortune out of it. What dishonesty is there in the public decision to make their own blankets and dispense with the costly Wooley and the expensive Shoddy, and the exorbitant Serapp? If we choose to build mills and make more blankets, or boots, or snuff, or what not why would we not?

But the McNab's and the Shod-

dys, and the directors of the Amalgamated and the Trust, appear to be under the impression that they have a divine right to make our soap, and our clogs, and our blankets, and our mousetraps; and to enjoy the plunder. They have no divine right at all. They believe in competition: then let them compete with us.

We do not propose to rob these men. We don't want their looms, nor their forges, and mortar; we don't want them. But when we propose to make looms and forges and mills and blankets of our own, they put up the Solicitor-General to call us thieves.

We say to these superior persons: "Gentlemen, we perceive that you are men of genius and probity. You have done your best, and have made England what she is. We do not propose to hang you for it, because, as Determinists, we are opposed to punishment. But we beg to notify you that after a given date we shall have no further need of your services". Bismillah! Is that confiscation? Let them take their wretched money. Who wants it?

With a properly organized community we can treble the wealth of the nation; and there will be no want! Who said "Stop thief"?

And the cautious workman, the "frugal swain", shivering in his sweater-made shoes lest he be robbed of the coppers in his savings bank, need have no fear. It is a mean fear, anyhow. If I could be



assured that no child should be ill-used, that all poverty and its attendant evils should cease. I would freely give every shilling I have—aye, and my life. However, let not the careful workman blanch. Socialism will not touch his precious bank account. But where and at what price can he secure such an insurance, such a provision for his old age, such education and such prospects for his children, such respect and comfort for his wife, and such profitable and pleasant and easy conditions of labor for himself, as Socialism offers him? He saves, good man, against a rainy day. There will be no rainy days under a Socialist sky—or, shall we say, the community will provide umbrellas for all.

As for the fear of Canada's democratic bosses that we Socialists mean to depreciate their moral stock and debase the individual and the home we beg to say that we propose, on the contrary, to improve the morals of the people of all classes.

Suppose that to improve a community you must improve the individuals. I ask how? How will Sir Frederick Banbury improve them? Ah! He has no plan. He is going to wait until they improve themselves. Now, that is not our idea. We are going to make it possible for them to improve themselves. We are going to give the men environment in which they will be able to improve themselves.

They must have homes, and food, and clean water, and rest, and self-respect, and hope; hope, my lords and gentlemen, human hope.

And we are going to teach the children true morality, and true economy, and true wisdom. We are not going to teach them that England should be the Workshop of the world; nor that England should build up an Empire on blood and fraud; nor that society flourishes by the antagonism of its atoms;



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because all those are immoral and inhuman lies.

But we shall teach them that peace is better than war; that union is better than disunion; that love is better than hate; and that a citizen has duties as well as rights.

Oh! we will raise the individual, all right; and we will take particular care, gentlemen, that you superior persons do not get him down again. That you do not get him down and stand on his face, and rifle his pockets, and insult his wife, and starve his children, and poison his mind, and pervert his understanding. Your honorable worships, do we make our meaning plain?

Do we think the State or the County Council or the Town Council could manage vast and complex businesses? We do. Why not? If the State can build battleships, why not houses? If the State can carry our letters and telegrams, why not our coals and milk? If the County and Town Councils can manage our gas and water supplies, why not our bread and corn and beer supplies? If they can manage our tramways, why not our railways and lines of steamships?

But, some individualist may ask, can the State—which is the people—manage such things as well as they are managed by private firms and companies? And we answer, Yes, and not the cotton lords who pas-

sed the Factory Acts. It has been the State always that has forced upon the employers of Labor the various Acts for the improvement of Labor, the conditions of Labor. If the Solicitor-General will look back at the history of industrial legislation he will discover that in the mines, in factories, in the ships, on the railways, in the schools, and in the slums the state has repeatedly stepped in to show the private employer how to amend the management of his business. History is on the side of the insane Socialists. History nowhere bears out the amazing claim that the British people are incapable of managing their own affairs.

Besides. What is the use of raiding libraries and trying to bludgeon ideals? It is the old stupid policy of all reactionaries who imagine that it is easier and safer to burn books than to answer them.

### CO-OPERATION OF SOCIAL AGENCIES

About fifty per cent. of social agencies operating in Montreal have signified their readiness to join in a proposed federation of Protestant agencies, which was suggested at a meeting of the Montreal Council of Social Agencies held on Friday, November 28th last. This was the report made at an adjourned meeting held last week in Strathcona Hall, presided over by Mr. George Lyman, with Mr. John Brandford as secretary, and attended by about seventy delegates of the societies concerned. Further it was stated that several societies or institutions had asked for further time to consider the matter, and, generally, the feeling of the meeting was that the response was fairly satisfactory since any movement of this character in Montreal requires time to become acceptable.

The report submitted by Mr. Bradford upon the answers to the enquiry which had been circulated as to whether societies would be agreeable to a federation scheme which would be for promotion of general aims and objects, but which would not include financial federation, showed that twenty-five agencies had acquiesced in the proposal, while seven or eight requests for postponement of decision were made. There were no direct negatives. It was pointed out that the list of agencies read out as accepting the proposition contained the names of some of the leading units such as the Montreal General Hospital and the Charity Organization Society.

### THE REMEDY.

First office boy—"I told the boss to look at the dark circles under my eyes and see if I didn't need a half day off."

Second office boy—"What did he say?"

First office boy—"He said I needed a bar of soap."—"The American Legion Weekly".



# Our OTTAWA LETTER

(From our own correspondent)

Scarcely a week passes but there is strong Washington Post shuffle at Ottawa, and the last was no exception. Ten days ago Mr. J. A. Calder took charge of the Militia Department and now he hands it over to Mr. Guthrie who has been sworn in as full Minister. Dr. J. D. Reid, who has been managing or mis-managing both the Departments of Public Works and Railways, has joined the muster roll of ailing statesmen. Worn out with arduous labor in averting Cabinet crises and devising new schemes to preserve patronage, he has been ordered by his doctors to seek repose for his soul and body amid the orange groves of Florida. Our Premier is apparently harboring his wearied frame somewhere in the same regions and unless he has concealed himself in some hidden lagoon, it is safe to say that Dr. Reid will seek him out and put a summary end to his immunity from political worries.

Dr. Reid's capacity for the solution of political and administrative problems was limited and he had acquired the pleasant habit of running with every little difficulty to some colleague, preferably the Premier. So we can picture Sir Robert being rudely interrupted at his breakfast some morning by the apparition of Dr. Reid, who will probably announce that he has just run over to "get a line" on the best way of carrying the Temsikaming by-election or the solution of some kindred puzzle. It was impossible to induce the leisure-loving Mr. Maclean to take over the Public Works, so Mr. Rowell stepped into the breach and Mr. Calder moves to temporary leadership of the Railway Department.

Mr. Guthrie has now got a full portfolio which now of course is of less importance than during the war period. Mr. Guthrie is one of the people who have found a really congenial home in the Coalition. He entered the House as a Liberal in 1904 and was hailed as a recruit of great promise; he had a fine presence and was an excellent speaker both in debate and on the platform. But he never began to fulfill the promise of his earlier years; his instincts were never really progressive and he was always classed as one of the reactionary forces in the Liberal party. One great handicap under which Mr. Guthrie always labored was that he never commanded the respect of his Liberal colleagues on the same side of the House and today the surviving faithful while they have a deep aversion for Mr. Rowell, regard Mr. Guthrie with contempt. It is well known to many of them that no member of the Liberal party was under a deeper personal obligation to the late Sir Wil-

frid Laurier and whatever Guthrie's sentiments on the Conscription issue were, a man of really fine feeling standing in his position would not have not been able to secede openly from Sir Wilfrid Laurier at that moment. He entered the Union Government as Solicitor General without a Cabinet seat but was promoted later and now he gains the full glory of both seat and portfolio.

Mr. A. K. Maclean still persists in private announcements of his impending resignation. He has long stood shivering on the brink of departure and it is probably only the bother of making the necessary personal readjustments that has kept him in the Cabinet so long. Mr. Maclean is essentially a Liberal in theory and a Conservative in practice. He hates unpleasant illiberal people and acts of Prussianism and repression but he is also averse to the confusion and strife which constructive reforms often stir up. He will probably return to his law practice in Halifax and eventually adorn the bench in some guise or other. He would do Canada a good turn if he would by re-entering his law office enable his partner Col. J. L. Ralston D.S.O. to take an active part in public life. When Col. Ralston spoke at the Liberal Convention in August,

he created a most favorable impression, possibly more by his clean-cut appearance and obvious strength of character than by anything he actually said. He seemed to belong to another world than the George P. Grahams and Knowles who thronged the platform and had almost the air of an innocent debutante among a lot of hardened dowagers. Col. Ralston has a most distinguished record overseas and was one of the most popular as well as one of the most efficient senior officers in the Canadian corps. He is a member of the Nova Scotia legislature and has decided as well as capable inclinations for political life. His views are completely progressive and sooner or later he will be called upon to play a notable part. For the present he probably wants to stick to his law practice and supervise his neglected affairs but it is understood that he can join the Nova Scotia provincial government any time he so desires.

It is now possible to devote some consideration to the speeches of our various statesmen during the past fortnight. Mr. Arthur Meighen freed from the necessity of retrieving the errors and solving the problems of Dr. Reid found leisure to attend a convention of our boot and shoe manufacturers in the City of Quebec. Where the interest of himself and his political party are concerned Mr. Meighen is a very energetic and resourceful spirit and he seized the opportunity to deliver a

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speech which was full of significance for his own career and the future course of politics.

After ranging at large on a variety of issues he paid particular attention to the tariff which is of paramount interest to the boot and shoe trade. In days gone by Mr. Meighen was not an ardent advocate of protection; he could not afford to be as a large part of his constituency was rural and the programme of the Graingrowers' Association was not unpopular there. He once in his career sponsored an amendment calling for free agricultural implements and always passed as a low tariff man. In the first session of 1919 he gave the western Unionists every encouragement to press their tariff demands on the Cabinet and professed his keen support to them.

But that was at a time when the Coalition had still some hopes of salvaging something from the wreck of their political fortunes in the West. Now they have none, at least in the prairie provinces. The events of the December crisis taught Mr. Meighen that some of his Liberal Unionist colleagues were not the devoted admirers of his character and talents which he supposed them to be and that he must, if his own ambitions were to be realized, make friends with more reliable and trustworthy allies. Probably his late experience has convinced the Minister of the Interior that all hope of perpetuating the Coalition is dead and his best lies in the speedy revival of the Conservative party on its historic basis as the steady supporter of protectionism.

He therefore at Quebec boldly emerged as a patron of tariffs and threw down the gage of battle to their enemies. He began by telling the brethren of the last that they must not "expect a tariff that could be used for exploitation nor could they expect a tariff behind which they could shelter in ease and luxury. The best they could expect would be so conditional that it would give them a reasonable advantage for Canada's business. Industries must be legitimate, they must not be mere exotics, they must depend mainly on our resources and cognate industries for their material."

Such are the constructive views on the tariff question of the man who will probably lead the more conservative party in this country ere many months elapse and all that can be said of them is that they are distressingly vague.

What, it may be asked, is Mr. Meighen's definition of a "mere exotic" in industry? Is not the cotton industry such—it does not draw its raw material "from our own resource-

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es" or "cognate Canadian industries?" If it comes under the "mere exotic class", it must be illegitimate and therefore Mr. Meighen would apparently condemn it to what he regards as the cold blasts of free trade. But surely he does not for a moment imagine that he would be allowed to frame a Canadian tariff from whose benefits the Dominion Textile Co., the Canadian Cottons, Limited and other powerful, if somewhat watery, institutions are excluded. Mr. Meighen says there must be no exploitation of lethargy behind the shelter of the tariff walls but gives no hint as to how he proposes to prevent this. Does he purport giving a dose of the "New protection" which has been tried in Australia? Such a remedy entails the introduction of vast and far-reaching measures of State Socialism which would bring walls of mingled despair and wrath from the Montreal Gazette and Sir Edmund Walker. Protection has kept its hold in Australia because there it is frankly recognized that it is part and parcel of the general Socialist scheme.

Lastly, what does Mr. Meighen consider a "reasonable advantage for Canada's business." Some clearer definition is required. What might seem a reasonable advantage and profit to the woollen manufacturer who did not run his mill for the "glory of God" might seem very unreasonable to a housewife who had to buy clothes for a family of seven. Altogether Mr. Meighen upon the tariff is delightfully vague as far as concrete proposals are concerned, and the Montreal Gazette bluntly asked him the next day if he would be prepared to make a speech in identical terms in Portage La Prairie. Mr. Meighen wanted to go West before the session opened and expound his views on the tariff and other questions but the sagacious Mr. Calder entered a caveat on the ground that there must be no definite confessions of faith till a Unionist caucus had been held.

Having stated his defensive case, Mr. Meighen turned to the offensive and proceeded to pay his respects to those who might hold other views on the tariff in these words:—

"There are others, one political party, possibly, two; one political party anyway, now fullfledged and on the march, who would submarine our whole fiscal system, who would legislate first and then count the cost. To such a party, of course, enquiry has no meaning and no purpose. With them so far as I am concerned I engage this issue. If this whole thing has to be threshed out again, let it be done, and well done, and let the people once again decide. One thing sure, with the burden of this country today, we must have revenue and we must have business or everybody is going to suffer.

It has long been notorious that if the facts of a case do not coincide with the immediate needs of the Minister of the Interior's argument, it is a black look out for the facts. Obviously his reference to the party

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"mow full-fledged and on the march" is to the farmers' party. But what warrant has he for the categorical statement that they are out to submarine our whole fiscal system? All that the programme of the farmers, called the New National Policy, proposes to do is to bring about vital modifications of our tariffs and methods of raising revenue which are only two aspects of our fiscal system. They have never proposed, as the British Labor party do, a complete annihilation of the existing capitalist system, in fact many of their projects smack almost of absurd moderation. They have never, for instance, advocated a capital levy, and the confiscatory scale of succession duties which British Labor boldly asserts to be necessary.

The settled policy of Mr. Meighen and his associates will be to picture the Farmers' Policy as one of the wild extremes which might well have been fathered by Lenine and Trotsky. But then Mr. Meighen has to regain favor with the potentates of the Mount Royal Club and to atone for his backsliding last session in that regrettable incident of the Grand Trunk Bill.

Mr. Meighen is a stout defender of the economic status quo, but he always has a weather eye on the future. Mr. Rowell is sullenly conscious that the future in politics holds nothing for himself but darkness and the disillusionment of illrequited merit. He therefore loves to dwell upon the past

and recount the multitude of far-reaching and ennobling reforms which presumably he and his saintly influence induced the Coalition Government to bring to pass. With this end in view he lured the Unionists cohorts of Port Hope to a meeting a fortnight ago and daubtless they came right gladly to pay the homage which should always be accorded to exalted virtue. But Mr. Rowell is very dull after Mr. Meighen and to the ordinary human sinner he is exceedingly irritating. A perusal of his speeches leaves the feeling that he is a firm believer in Dean Swift's famous lines, which Lord Fisher delights to quote:

"We are God's chosen few  
All others will be damned  
There is no place in Heaven for you  
Or Heaven will be crammed."

There was an offensive unctuousness in the selfsatisfaction which marked Mr. Rowell's recital of the exploits of the Government which he has adorned. Some of the claims he set forth are justified but others will bear strict examination. Let it be granted that the Government met more problems than any administration of its generation. So did all governments during the last five years.

The question to be answered is how did they settle them. It is one thing to deal with a problem and another to deal with it properly. We can dismiss the claims about demobilization and other routine business which any government would have had to carry out. There was a mi-

nimum of constructive statesmanship about our part in the ratification of the Peace Treaty and all Mr. Rowell's talk about the recognition that we are now a "nation" is so much eyewash. International law takes no cognisance of "nations", only of sovereign states and dependencies. No one will object to us calling ourselves a nation, it is like an individual asking that his letters must henceforth be addressed "Esq". What has not been solved is the question of our statehood and till that is done, there is little ground for enthusiasm.

The Grand Trunk problem was solved but it remains to be seen whether the bargain struck was in the best interests of the Canadian people. The columns of the Ottawa and other papers will reveal just how widespread is the satisfaction with the settlement which the Government have made of the Civil Service and Soldiers' re-establishment problems. Again the orator boasted of our financial exploits but he either did not know or did not care to reveal the fact that their main superiority over the methods of other countries was their shameless bias in favor of the richer classes. As for the maintenance of law and order and respect for constituted authority, the less Mr. Rowell dilates upon it the better. The great British traditions of liberty of thought and speech have had absolutely no meaning for the present Cabinet and they have been responsible for a spiritual and intellectual reaction in Canada whose consequences will have serious permanent effects. If complacency is a merit, however, Mr. Rowell possesses it in abundance.

J. A. Stevenson.

### ONLY ONE-THIRD OF MONTREALERS GO TO CHURCH

"Sometimes I wonder if our patriotism is not stronger than our religion." Such was the statement of Canon Shatford at a largely attended meeting of the Calvary Men's Own Brotherhood in Calvary Church, Montreal, this week. According to statistics quoted by the Canon, only thirty-three per cent. or about one-third, of the population of Montreal of churchgoing age, ever entered any church, even casually. In the United States, there were seven million men who never darkened the doors of a place of worship, while in London it was said that at the present time the number of church-going men was not more than one per cent. of the adult male community. Such extreme apathy and indifference he could not understand. When Canon Shatford was overseas an active service with the troops, there were many who criticized much and often the Church and organized Christianity, but he yet to find the man who criticized or found fault with Christ. And yet the two were inseparable, or should be.



# The Canadian Railroader

WEEKLY

The Official Organ of the Fifth Sunday Meeting  
Association of Canada

Organized Sept. 1916

Incorporated under Dominion Letters Patent.

April, 1919.

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## The Family Man's Dollar

SOME of our popular phrases probably need a little reconstruction; that one, for instance, about the poor always having the large families. Has it occurred to you that the poor might be poor because they have large families? Is not the penalized parenthood of our social system one of the surest ways to poverty? To put it another way, do we not cause parents to be poor because they do the most obvious and most essential duty of mankind?

The fact that a man is married and has at least one other adult besides himself to support from his earnings, and often has from one to ten juveniles to support, makes not a cent of difference in his revenue. He is paid the market price for whatever work he does, irrespective of his home responsibilities. An unmarried man with no home responsibilities, and who is as efficient as the married man, receives the same wages. An unmarried woman with no home responsibilities claims equal pay for equal work. All this may be as it should be; unless our whole economic structure is changed it is difficult to see how it can be altered. But there are effects to be considered.

The dollar of the single man still means one hundred cents to him, for himself. The dollar of the married man has slumped to about fifty cents apiece for himself and wife. (Another popular phrase that needs reconstruction here crops up; that two can live as cheaply as one).

But suppose there are also children. What a small thing the dollar means to each unit of the family! The greater spread of the dollar means poorer housing, feeding and clothing.

A single man without responsibilities who is earning, say, \$40 a week, is probably on the way to prosperity. He can live in the west-end, dress well, dine well, and have a fairly good time generally. The married man who has \$40 a week, and has a wife, and say, five children, has to live in a mean flat in a mean street in the east end. The forty dollars have to feed,

clothe, and shelter seven persons instead of one, with the result that there is an insufficiency of necessities. The \$40 a week man without responsibilities is affluent: the \$40 a week man with wife and five children is poor, and the only reason he is poor is that he has those six other persons to support. There are no financial compensations for the family man except that he is a little freer from income tax. If his children grow up and also want to do their duty by rearing children of their own, they get off to a bad start and the second generation is, just as likely as not, to be poorer than the first.

Poets, prelates, politicians, pedagogues, and publicists generally, have vied with one another for centuries in paying tribute to the parent and in declaring the child to be the greatest asset of the state.

One might reasonably expect that by this time public activity would have become so formed that the parent, as such, would get, at least, a chance for the necessities of life, on a fair competitive basis (if on a competitive basis at all), and that the child, so valuable to the state, would be, as a matter of cold business alone, if not the first call, at least the second, third, fourth, fifth or sixth call, upon the resources of the state.

But, having saturated the air with fragrant phrases about parent and child, the country merely proceeds to mop the floor with parent and child. The parent is heavily penalized for being a parent. The child is so little heeded that even baby welfare stations find it difficult to buy, beg or borrow enough pure food to keep it alive.

K. C.

## A Lesson From Spain

SUNDAY is to be a day of rest for Spanish journalists, according to a royal decree issued at Madrid a few days ago. Among the conditions of the decree, it is ordered that no paper shall be published or sold between noon on Saturday and noon on Monday, and no press despatches by telegraph or telephone can be accepted between six a.m. Sunday and six a.m. Monday.

This almost looks like an effort to entice Canadian journalists to Spain!

The seven-day, seventy-hour week is a fairly common thing for Canadian journalists. In some newspaper offices not a single statutory holiday throughout the year is granted to the workers, and not a day off duty is given in lieu of holiday work. Some Canadian journalists have worked Saturdays and Sundays for fifteen years and more without a break other than the annual holiday of one or two weeks. Their long hours are frequently aggravated by their irregularity.

The odd situation has sometimes arisen that agitators for the eight-hour day and the weekly day of rest have voiced their demands for publicity for their views, to reporters who were working ten, twelve and fourteen hours a day, seven days a week.

There is now a tendency to shorten the hours of Canadian journalists, thanks only to the propaganda of newswriters unions and their allies in organized labor, but, bless your heart, no publisher would admit that.

K. C.

## A Triple Deportation

IN the early morn of Friday, January 23rd, three Canadians, of whom two were said to be under twenty-one years, were deported to that bourne from whence no traveller returns. Not being aliens or even English, it was impossible to place them in a Soviet ark, so they were thrust on the ocean of eternity. They had killed among them an old man, and the law still says, "Thou shalt not kill." But the law took no cognizance of the obligation of a community of supposedly Christian people in regard to launching its youth upon life. It appeared that these young fellows have started on the highroad of crime very early and had been in jail by the time they entered their 'teens. Presumably



at that time the Juvenile Court was not in existence — it came into being, if we remember rightly, in 1912 in this city. The question arises whether if they were thus initiated into crime and jail associations, how is it that a community with its numerous Christian and benevolent institutions, failed in some way to touch them and try to reclaim them? The answer is clear: our penal system is conducted without any reference to the salvation of the prisoner. Had these youths been followed up by an Elder Brother movement on emerging from prison, it is possible they might have been saved from plunging further down.

Following five years of violence and bloodshed on a world-wide scale, there is a big wave of crime sweeping over the countries which were involved in the war. Men learned to take life easily and young people learned to read of it as a normal thing. Is it any wonder that this wave of crime should result? How then is it to be met? By more violence and by what are known as "severe measures"? In every other direction one hears the argument that we are in a new world and that it is impossible to revert to the status quo ante bellum. But in this matter of punishment apparently there is reversion to absolutely mediaeval methods, let alone those just before the war. According to a New York despatch in the Canadian papers of 22nd January, conscientious objectors of San Francisco are being placed in a specially constructed torture chamber in which the prisoner can neither stand erect, sit or lie. This is for those who refused on any account to join the army. At Atlanta, Ga., — this was in the same day's despatches — the prison committee of the city council has just ordered that women must no longer be flogged. In Kingston, Ontario, just before the war it was shown by a blue book that the method of dealing with refractory prisoners was to turn a powerful hose on them until they fainted or went mad.

Is it not time that the people who exercise the franchise shall elect men and women who really represent them, also that they shall insist that all public institutions for which they pay, shall be publicly inspected by elected committees? This can be done if the programme of the Fifth Sunday Meeting Association is adopted and acted upon:

## The Sucker Crop

**D**OES Judd Q. Lloyd, 123 Orange Avenue, Brockville, Florida, figger that the sucker crop up here in Montreal looks pretty good to him? For what other earthly reason would Judd Q. Lloyd pay for the following advertisement in the Montreal Standard of January 24th:—

"Own combination of orange and grape-fruit grove consisting of five large bearing trees on five separate lots, each about 25 x 25 feet, and one building lot 50 x 150 feet all in the city limits, two blocks from high school, surrounded by beautiful homes in Florida's richest, highest, hardwood citrus section, price \$720.00, five years to pay, no worries, no interest, no taxes. I stand expense grove upkeep five years, you pay freight on your own fruit that's all. I guarantee to ship you not less than 150 boxes fruit or net you here \$2.00 box. Have larger groves, improved and unimproved farms, sold on terms low as \$1.00 a month. These extraordinary propositions made to secure desirable citizens, reference required. Write me to-day for facts and photos. Judd Q. Lloyd, 123 Orange avenue, Brockville, Florida.

K. C.

## A. F. of L. Convention

**A**N impression seems to have gained some circulation that the proposal to hold the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor in Montreal in June of this year, has been cancelled on account of lack of hall and hotel accommodation. The impression is erroneous. There has been no cancellation of the decision to hold the convention here, and the signs are hopeful that there will be no cancellation, as some of the difficulties of accommodation have already been overcome.

K. C.

## Those Movie Serials

**U**NLESS you approve of entertainment for your children that outstrips the most bloodcurdling and sensational dime novels ever written, you will not let your children see the following movie serials running in local theatres at present:—

"The Adventures of Ruth."  
 "The Black Secret".  
 "The Invisible Hand."  
 "Trail of the Octopus".  
 "The Lion Man".  
 "Great Radium Mystery".

K. C.

### VETERANS DEFINE ATTITUDE TO LABOR

Ottawa, January 23—A resolution which, if adopted at the next convention of the Great War Veterans' Association of Canada, will do much to make clear the relationship between the returned soldiers and labor, was submitted to the Dominion executive by the representative of the Nova Scotia command. It was passed at the annual meeting of that provincial organization and will probably receive the support of the coming convention.

The chief points endorsed by the resolution are:

- (1)—The right of labor to organize.
- (2)—The recognition of organized labor and its right to negotiate with its employers.
- (3)—The right to strike, within the constitutional authority of the Dominion of Canada.
- (4)—That all labor organizations be incorporated.
- (5)—That all contracts entered into between employers and organized labor organizations, when within the constitution of the Dominion of Canada, shall be legal and binding upon the contracting parties or organizations.
- (6)—Reasonable trade tests for candidates to trades unions, so as to protect employers and the general public from "incompetents" and "inefficients".
- (7)—That in order for a strike to be lawful, it shall be necessary that a majority of the employees affected thereby shall have declared by ballot in favor of such strike.
- (8)—That such legislation should not in any way circumscribe the objects of labor or dictate its policies.

The resolution concludes as follows:

"And be it further resolved that, so long as organized labor in Canada pursues its aims and objects by constitutional methods, the G.W.V.A. may aid, assist and support their legitimate undertakings for the improvement and advancement of labor as a class.

"And be it further resolved

that, in the event of organized labor pursuing illegal and unconstitutional methods, the G.W.V.A. will consider it their right and duty, as Canadian citizens, to oppose and assist to repress. Such illegal and unconstitutional methods".

### A HAND ON YOUR SHOULDER

When a man ain't got a cent,

And he's feeling kind of blue,  
 And the clouds hang dark and heavy

And won't let the sunshine through,

It's a great thing. O my brethren,  
 Fer a feller just to lay

His hand upon your shoulder  
 In a friendly sort o' way.

It makes a man feel curious,

It makes the tear drops start,  
 An' you sort o' feel a flutter

In the region of the heart!

You can look up and meet his eyes;  
 You don't know what to say

When his hand is on your shoulder  
 In a friendly sort o' way.

Oh, the world's a curious compound,

With its honey and its gall,

With its cares and bitter crosses—

But a good world after all.

An' a good God must have made it—

Leastwise that is what I say

When a hand is on my shoulder

In a friendly sort o' way.

—James Whitcomb Riley.

### CLEVER MISS.

"Mr. Graboom spent thousands of dollars on his daughter's education. She attended some of the most expensive schools in America and Europe. She was taught to sing, to paint, to play various instruments, and to speak three or four languages?"

"Fine".

"But let me tell you how shamelessly she repaid her father's tender care. She came back home married his chauffeur".

"Splendid! A girl possessing her wealth and with her accomplishments might have married a broken-down duke". —"San Francisco Argonaut".



## OUR LONDON LETTER

(From our own Correspondent)

London, January 2nd.

AT the moment of writing all industrial England, and most of the rest, is talking of the long-drawn-out strike of moulders which has for fourteen weeks been hampering our commerce and making it difficult for us to obtain almost everything that has to be manufactured by machinery.

Twice have negotiations broken off and apparently unbreakable deadlock ensued. But there has been such a demand in the Press generally and from public opinion, that today they are being resumed with more than a fair show of success.

The moulders asked for an increase of 15s. (\$3.75) a week with 7s. 6d. (\$1.85) for boys. The Engineering Employers' Federation at first met the demand with a flat refusal. Later they offered 5s. (\$1.25) a sum which the other engineering unions have received by an award. When the proposal was put to the men, however, although they were recommended by some of their leaders to take it, they refused, and the strike went on.

The absence of 50,000 moulders from the foundries had by this time come to be felt heavily, and before long 100,000 other workers were out of employment as a result of this "cogwheel" strike. The moulders exhausted their funds, but they were not dismayed. Workshop collections and help from other unions eked out the strike pay of 14s. (\$3.50) a week with 1s. each for children, and the men preferred to remain out rather than accept the meagre terms offered them.

With considerable trouble a second conference was arranged. The employers were by this time credited with being willing to increase their proposal, but they spoilt everything by introducing a new and vexatious matter. Four weeks before the moulders came out in a body, a small strike had taken place in West Bromwich, a third rate town in the Midlands, over a demarcation issue. There were in two "shops", four men working as moulders three of whom were members of the Gas the Municipal Workers' Union and one of the Workers' Union, an organization which takes in men and women of all crafts and none. It has built up a membership of nearly half a million by catering for the great unorganized no matter who they may be. The moulders said these four men must come into their union, and because they preferred the old love, the two shops were struck. What the employers now did was to introduce this small matter, which was entirely one for trade union

legislation or arrangement, and no concern of theirs, into the large issue. This was so hotly resented that the second conference became absolutely abortive.

More and more workers were deprived of employment. Britain lost orders which by this time mounted up to quite a hundred million pounds, and the dispute came to be known as the "strangulation" strike. In vain did Mr. Arthur Henderson, President of the Friendly Society of Ironfounders, and Secretary of the Labor Party, plead that they should allow this purely local incident to be settled locally and separately. The employers were obdurate. They seemed cynically determined to humiliate the men.

Among others, I urged that the Parliamentary Committee of our Trades Union Conference, which is the nearest approach to a general executive for organized Labor that we have, should take the West Bromwich affair in hand. This week that has been done. They have appointed an investigating committee to settle it and this altogether unhappy quarrel between two unions is being thrashed out in that way, quite apart from the big dispute in the way of the settlement of which it was standing. We are now hoping for an honorable settlement of the most disastrous strike we have had for years.

Turning to a more pleasant subject, it is gratifying to record that Labor has just scored a notable achievement at the polls. The fact that it has not returned its man to Parliament is as nothing compared to the sensational increase in the Labor vote and the amazing reduction in that of the opposing side.

The constituency was Bromley, one of the ultra-respectable residential sections on London's outer ring. Millionaires are as thick as blackberries in season, and snobbery and privilege are the predominating features of the place. A bye-election occurred and Labor decided to do one of the most audacious, adventurous things it has ever attempted. The Tory Member had had a majority of over 12,000. When ten days before the poll the national Labor organizer went down to the constituency. The party of the people, having never ventured to fight it before, had no candidate, no money, no influence, nothing but an almost insuperable task and indomitable courage. With the latter they attacked the former and, in just over a week, they so gained ground that had been deemed irretrievably hopeless, that the huge Tory majority of 12,000 was reduced to little over 1,000.

"After this", the Labor organizer, Egerton P. Wake, remarked to me when the result came through, "we can fight anything. We can

## FIVE ROSES FLOUR for Breads Cakes-Puddings-Pastries

YOUR puddings are palatable, why use Five Roses? Simply because you want them more daintily porous, more digestible. Five Roses puddings digest unconsciously—every spoonful is a tasty source of vitality.



go into the city of London itself. I should explain that when we speak of "the City" over here, we always mean the "sacred mile" round the Bank of England, where the millions are made and housed, and where the financiers play the golf game with the rest of the population as pawns. Given the right candidate, I really believe Labor could shake "the City" itself.

We are trying a new fascinating experiment in this country for avoiding strikes. The first serious attempt is to be made in connection with the dockers' demand for 16s. (\$4.) per week minimum, of which I have already written something in these columns. Under the recently-passed Industrial Courts Act there is power to remit either a dispute or an anticipated dispute, to one of two bodies—a Board of Arbitration or a Committee of Inquiry. The Board part of the scheme has already operated, with results regarded as satisfactory all round. The Court of Inquiry is now to have its chance.

When the shipowners realized the seriousness of a dock strike should one come, they suggested the inquiry idea and the Transport Workers' Federation have agreed to it. The workers have nominated three representatives, Messrs. Harry Gosling and Robert Williams (Chairman and Secretary of the Federation) and Mr. Ben Tillet, the dockers' leader. The employers will select three and the Ministry of Labor will appoint the chairman.

The Court will have power to call witnesses and require production of books and documents. If the workers' case is well conducted, there is bound to be such a revelation of inflated charges and swollen profits as will open the eyes of this complacent old land and provide a shock second only to that supplied by the famous Coal Commission. The shipping interests have accumulated fabulous sums during the war, and we are paying dearly for everything we import in consequence.

Labor is watching with considerable interest the new unemployment insurance proposals of the Government. They have only just been issued. Under the old Act, framed several years ago, unemployment benefit, towards which the workers were compelled to contribute threepence (6c.) per week, including the health insurance part of the scheme, the unemployment benefit was 7s. (\$1.75) per week. The new Bill raises this to 15s. (\$3.75) a week for men and 12s. for women. The weakest spot in the Bill is that agricultural and domestic workers are not included.

An opportunity will be afforded for industries to contract out of the general scheme by setting up special schemes of their own, giving equal or superior advantages, such as may be approved by the Ministry of Labor. Power is also reserved to the Minister, if he thinks fit, to set up a special scheme for any particular industry. Benefit is payable after 12 contributions during a period of not less than six months.

Negotiations just completed between the Government and the railway unions have resulted in useful advances to the men, although, as was expected, they are not getting all that was desired. The full terms will be disclosed in a few days, and then, the branches having discussed them, come before a delegate conference next week for ratification or rejection. A provisional president of the National Union of Railwaymen will probably then be chosen to succeed Mr. C. T. Cramp, who has become Industrial Secretary.

There is some criticism in the branches that the new Advisory Board which I have described, and on which the men are to have representatives, does not go far enough and should be a body with executive powers, but this is not likely to prejudice the passing of the scheme. We cannot have everything at once, however, in this imperfect world.

Ethelbert Pogson.



James Gibson.



## Labor Resolutions Placed Before Quebec Government

Following is the complete text of the resolutions presented by the provincial committee of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, and the representatives of the Montreal Trades and Labor Council to the Quebec Government on January 20th:

### Factory Laws

Resolution No. 1.—*Prohibiting the use of the air or electric hammer in the fabrication of cut stone.*—Whereas the Government of the United States, through a demand made by the Journeymen Stonecutters' Association, has made an investigation into the use of pneumatic hammers, and whereas the said investigation has proven that the effect of using said hammer results in loss of feeling in the hands and impairing the efficiency of the workers, be it resolved, that we petition the various governments with a view to the enactment of legislation prohibiting the use of the air or electric hammer in the fabrication of cut stone.

Resolution No. 2.—*Nomination of practical metal polishers as blower inspectors.*—Whereas it is a well-known fact that the death rate from pulmonary diseases is on the increase amongst metal polishers, owing to the indifferent enforcement of the blower laws is by the appointment of practical means of enforcing the blower laws is by the appointment of practical metal polishers as inspectors; therefore, be it resolved that this Congress place itself on record as being in favor of uniform blower laws and urge upon Provincial Cabinets the absolute necessity of appointing practical metal polishers as blower inspectors.

Resolution No. 3.—*Protection of moving picture operators.*—That the Provincial Governments be requested to pass a law making it mandatory on all moving picture theatres owners to have their operating cabinets so constructed as to allow free action of the operator and eliminate the danger of fire; be it further resolved, that it be made compulsory to have running water, together with sanitary conditions and proper ventilation, in all operating cabinets, so as to ensure the health of moving pictures operators.

Resolution No. 4.—*Protection in electrical devices.*—That the Provincial Governments be requested to pass legislation that all electrical developing, distributing, transforming and switchboard stations have an experienced operator in constant attendance, same operator not to be under the age of 21 years, and where the employment is on eight-hour basis for three consecutive shifts in the 24 hours with no holidays or Sundays being allowed for days of rest, that same employees shall be compelled by statute law to rest one day in seven.

Resolution No. 5.—*Minimum wage for unskilled labor.*—To add to the law fixing minimum wages for women and children, the words "unskilled labor."

Resolution No. 6.—*Abolishing the practice of making clothing in the homes of wage-earners.*—Whereas, the making of clothing in the homes of wage-earners has been a detriment to the tailors in securing better and more sanitary work-shops and very often means the introduction of child-labor; and, whereas, public health is endangered through the danger of contracting disease by the wearing of clothing made up in the homes where disease or illness occurs; it is, therefore, resolved, that this Congress instruct the Provincial Executives to press for legislation abolishing the practice of making clothing in the homes of the wage-earners.

Resolution No. 7.—*Removal of old wallpaper before placing on new.*—That the various Provincial Executives use every effort possible to have legislation that will make compulsory the removal of all old wall-paper before placing on new. This is vital to the health of all citizens in Canada and concerns the health and well-being of the workers.

Resolution No. 8.—*Sanitary shop laws in barber shops.*—Whereas, many barber shops which are not kept in sanitary conditions and not modern in their technique are the lurking places of skin diseases which may be transmitted to any patron; and whereas, many barber shops are responsible for the spreading of ring-worm, syphilis, other skin diseases and blood ailments; and whereas, many cheap barber shops carry the dangerous practice of using the same steamer or hot towel on several patrons and the same comb and brush does the service on dozens before it is washed; be it resolved, that this Trades and Labor

Congress urges upon the various Provincial Governments to enact such sanitary shop law and laws to regulate the fitness of barbers to follow their trade so as to ensure safety to patrons of barber shops.

### Education

Resolution No. 9.—*Free and compulsory education.*—We reiterate again our former requests for free and compulsory education, and will urge upon the Government to enact a law making it compulsory for all children to attend school until they reach the age of 16 years and that all persons under the age of 21 years, working in factories, workshops, stores or any other places of employment, who are not able to read and write one of the two official languages of this country be compelled to attend an evening class.

Resolution No. 10.—*Minimum living wage for school teachers.*—Whereas it is generally conceded that wages paid to school teachers are inadequate and do not permit them to cope with the high cost of living, thus severely handicapping them in the struggle for existence, making their profession distasteful and their general status ineffective, minimizing to a great extent the efficiency, zeal and devotion so necessary in the fulfilment of the noble duties of educator, be it resolved: That the Provincial Government of Quebec be requested to fix a graded scale of wages for teachers, and to prosecute all School Commissions or School Commissioners collectively or individually for all infractions to the law, whether the school teachers voluntarily agreed to accept less than the fixed scale or not.

Resolution No. 11.—*Reformation rather than punishment.*—Whereas, it has been proven by social workers that jail terms do not improve the morals of the offenders, but rather harden them due principally to the wrong system in vogue in prisons, be it resolved: That the Provincial Executives be instructed to use every effort

to have prison conditions reformed wherever needed to give expression to the proper ideals of reformation rather than punishment.

### Eight-hour Day

Resolution No. 12.—*Eight-hour day.*—Whereas the principle of the 8-hour day has been admitted by the Peace Conference, the International Labor Conference of Washington, and has been already put into force through legislation in various countries and is now before the Parliaments of several others, be it resolved: That this Congress instruct its Executive Council, and Provincial Executives to use every effort to bring pressure to bear upon Provincial Legislatures and the Federal Government to secure legislation establishing the 8-hour working day and a working week of forty-four hours.

Resolution No. 13.—*Age of admission of children in industrial establishments.*—Whereas, according to Art. 3833 of the Revised Statutes of 1909 of Quebec, the age of employees in industrial establishments whether boys or girls must not be under fourteen years, and whereas in a great number of industries which cannot be properly classified as dangerous, unwholesome or incommodious, the employment of children of that age is detrimental to their health, be it resolved, that the Provincial Executive for Quebec be instructed to petition the Government in view of amending Art. 3833 in fixing the age of admission at sixteen.

### State Insurance

Resolution No. 14.—*State insurance against unemployment, sickness, invalidity and old age.*—Whereas it has been proven by the investigation made by the Industrial Relations Commission that one of the main reasons for the general unrest now prevailing in Canada is due to the fear of unemployment, invalidity and old age, and the pitiful state of depression in which sickness leaves the average working-man, which can be alleviated only through the agency of State Insurance, be it resolved: That Provincial Governments be requested to establish as soon as possible state insurance against unemployment, invalidity, sickness and old age.

Resolution No. 15.—*Pensions for needy mothers with dependent children.*—Whereas there is today a general understanding that the State is under obligation to help needy mothers with children — as they are the future citizens — be it resolved: That the Provincial Executives be instructed to continue their efforts to have the various Governments to adopt this much needed legislation.

### Democratic Management

Resolution No. 16.—*Democratic management for government or municipal work.*—Whereas in quite a number of cases municipalities acting as employers of labor have decidedly refused to comply with laws pertaining to relations between employer and employee, and whereas such a policy has resulted in either dissatisfaction or strikes, both detrimental to the efficiency of all parties concerned; be it resolved: That the various Governments be requested to enact legisla-

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tion placing governments and municipalities under the working of all industrial laws and all other laws pertaining to relations between Capital and Labor.

#### Compensation Law on Labor Accidents

Resolution No. 17.—*Compensation law in labor accidents.*—Whereas, although the Compensation Act in Labor Accidents of this Province has been amended year after year so as to keep under its scope the largest possible number of cases, and the indemnities have been increased to cope with the constant increase in the cost of living, it does not accomplish yet the aims and objects for which it has been created, we reiterate our former demand for the appointment of a commission to inquire into and report upon the matter, so that this Province may be endowed with a standard up-to-date and modern compensation law.

#### Electoral Laws

Resolution No. 18.—*Proportional representation.*—Whereas it is generally admitted today that most of our legislative bodies do not represent the true expression of the will of the people as sometimes a party having received a minority of the total vote given has a majority of candidates elected, and that the minorities at any rate are very seldom represented according to the total number of votes they have received, be it resolved: That the Provincial Executives be instructed to ask the various governments for the immediate adoption of proportional representation from grouped constituencies.

Resolution No. 19.—*Extension of hours of voting.*—Resolved that the Trades and Labor Congress petition the Dominion and Provincial Governments to extend the hours of voting to 8 p.m. to give the workers a better opportunity to record their votes.

#### Yearly Lease and Profiteering on Rent

Resolution No. 20.—*Profiteering on rent.*—Whereas it has been brought to the attention of the Provincial Executive of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, that certain owners of dwellings are raising rentals to an exorbitant extent on May 1st next; be it resolved that the Provincial Government be urged to enact legislation that will prevent any landlord or agent for property from raising rentals of dwellings higher than 10% profit of the assessed valuation.

Resolution No. 21.—*Yearly lease and thirty days' notice.*—That the Provincial Executive for Quebec petition the Government to pass legislation legalizing a thirty days' notice for the annulment of a dwelling lease.

#### Election of Commissions

Resolution No. 22.—*Election of Commissions.*—Whereas we have in the Province of Quebec a certain number of commissions that have been appointed, such as the Public Utilities Commission, the Tramways Commission and the Administrative Commission, that we think it is now time that we should return to a democratic form of government and administration in having the members of all these commissions elected by the people instead of being appointed.

## AN INTERNATIONAL OF IDEAS

(Special to the Railroader)

Shortly after the close of the war a group of young Frenchmen, most of whom had served in the war, formed an association in Paris to which they gave the title of Clarte, meaning thereby brightness. The founders, among whom one of the moving spirits was Henri Barbusse, the gifted author of "Under Fire", the most impressive and realistic of all the war books, felt that there was a danger that a spiritual defeat and reaction might accompany the physical victory and their aim was to revive and keep bright the ideals with which the war had been begun and some of which had been cheerfully forgotten by the allied statesmen.

Clarte has now become international in its scope and a strong English section with a representative committee has been established. On the latter body are found well-known veterans of the war like Col. Josiah Wedgwood, Commander Harold Grenfell, and Mr. Siegfried Sasson the poet, philosophers and publicists like the Hon Bertrand Russell and Mr E. D. Morel, and important Labor leaders like Mr Robert Williams

and Mr. Frank Hodges. The aim of the new movement is frankly stated in the prospectus of the organisation.

Clarte is a league of intellectual solidarity for the triumph of internationalism. It has no intention of creating a political party but aims to be a vital force for the consummation of a living ideal. That ideal is the Worldwide Federal Co-operative Commonwealth, without which there is in its view, no hope of salvation for the peoples and towards which the League of Nations is a feeble start. All the militarisms, not merely the German militarism, must be overthrown and all the artificial barriers which separate men from one another must be taken down. Clarte has in view, on the one hand, the elimination of political and economic frontiers; on the other the suppression of economic, social and political

inequalities and all class distinctions. It believes in the social equality of all citizens, men and women alike, in a community in which there shall be only one class of workers—either by hand or brain.

Its members hold that while economic causes play their part, war is mainly the fruit of perverted ideas. The chief of these erroneous ideas is that of purblind patriotism—the cult of the omnipotent state. Clarte opposes to this traditional institution the idea of internationalism and aims at the limitation of the sovereign independent state which often claims to exercise authority outside its own borders. The supporters of Clarte demand that citizenship of one state should carry with it citizenship of the whole world and want to make an end of such things as naturalisation papers.

Is not a mere group of intellectuals. It makes its particular appeal to men of science, writers, artists and all brain workers who have in the past for the most part been outside the scope of any organisation. It will attempt to bring in touch men and women who accept its ideals in one country with similar groups in another and promote thereby the advancement and growth of a real International spirit. It does not seek to supplant the Socialist and Labor parties, the trades unions or any existing organisations already working on the same lines. It merely seeks to amplify and help their work. Above all things it seeks to enlist the enthusiasm of the young for in the past they have been the chief sufferers from the errors of the old and with them the future lies.

The International Committee of Clarte contains a most impressive band of names. Politicians are conspicuous by their absence but real intellect is predominant. The following are among the best known of the Executive:—Henri Barbusse, Blasco Ibanez, George Brandes, Paul Colin, George Duhamel, Anatole France, Charles Gide, Ellen Key, Andreas Latzko, Charles Richtt, Bernard Shaw, Upton Sinclair and Israel Zangwill. As this list alone contains the names of a dozen of the most influential and prolific writers of the present day, Clarte will not lack in weapons for the dissemination of the ideas which it stands for. The English Secretary is Mr Douglas Goldring 7 St. James' Terrace, Regent's Park London and full particulars can be obtained from him as to the terms of membership and other particulars.

J. A. Stevenson.

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# Sabotage, "Sab Cats" and the "One Big Union"

(Literary Digest)

THOUGH anarchists, Bolsheviks, the I. W. W., and other extreme radicals have for some time been frenziedly "whooping it up" for revolution, terrorism, destruction, and general Hades and chaos in this country, they do not appear to have had much effect on American labor. The steel strike and the coal strike both passed off in a manner hardly more turbulent than the proverbial Sunday-school picnic, though sundry efforts were made by revolutionary "borers from within" to "start something," particularly in connection with the strike of the steel-workers. It seems to be the general opinion of the press that labor's attitude in regard to all the forms of destruction practised by the "reds" to gain their ends, and included under the general term sabotage, was made clear when the recent National Labor Conference in Washington adopted a resolution "repudiating and condemning" Bolshevism and I. W. W.-ism, and all their works, as "destructive of American ideas and impracticable in application."

It is to be understood, therefore, that the following outline of sabotage by John F. McGovern, appearing in the Minneapolis Tribune, deals with methods advocated only by a comparatively small body of ultra 'Reds' who have no standing in the ranks of organized labor, which perhaps explains why the A. F. of L. is peevishly styled among the "blown-in-the-glass" I. W. W. as the A. F. of Hell. The activities of sabotage advocates in time gone by have played a more or less prominent part in many strikes some of which are reviewed by Mr. McGovern. When I. W. W.-inclined delegates or leaders deemed it advisable to practise sabotage in a strike they usually passed the word to 'turn loose the kittens,' we are told. At other times there would be an appeal for 'cream for kitty,' or 'milk for the kittens,' when money and supplies were wanted for the "sab cats," as the trained specialists in destruction are styled in the peculiar vernacular of the I. W. W. The feline terminology, it is understood, is derived from the black-cat symbol of the I. W. W., which is supposed to stand for "bad luck to the employer."

Sabotage is also symbolized by a wooden shoe, whose origin is somewhat obscure. One explanation is that it was first used when a French worker on strike threw his wooden shoe, or *sabot*, into the loom to disable the machinery, while another says it was used to designate such clumsy work as might result from *sabot* blows. Whatever its derivation, the word now seems to be synonymous with destruction, or, in the language of a well-known I. W. W. organizer quoted by Mr. McGovern, "destruction of profits to gain a definite, revolutionary, economic end." Sabotage, we learn, was first practised in Scotland, and its origin is thus set out by Mr. McGovern:

In 1889 the Glasgow dock-workers went on strike asking an increase of two cents an hour. To break the strike, the contractors brought in a number of farmer boys from the country. The strike was lost. The secretary of the dock-workers in announcing the loss of the strike and ordering the men back to work, said:

"The contractors have expressed satisfaction with the work performed by the scabs brought in to do our work. We saw how they worked and what kind of satisfactory work they did. They could not even keep their balance on the bridge and dropped half their cargoes into the sea. One of us could do as much in a day as two of them. The bosses said they were satisfied with their work. Let us give them the same kind."

They went back to work and followed instructions. According to authorities, the bosses soon raised their wages. These tactics, known by the dockers as "*Ca Canny*," were advertised widely in England and were soon imported to France.

As expounded by its champions, sabotage may take a variety of forms but its ultimate design they always allege to be, in effect, the working of reform through destruction of property. They do not pretend to justify it on a moral basis. "If the workers consider that sabotage is necessary,

that in itself makes sabotage moral," Mr. McGovern reports an I. W. W. leader as saying. Further quoting this leader, in part, the Tribune writer shows how sabotage may be used:

It may mean the destroying of raw materials destined for a scab factory or shop. It may mean the spoiling of a finished product. It may mean the destruction of parts of machinery or the disarrangement of a whole machine where that machine is the one upon which the other machines are dependent for material.....

Authors on sabotage claim that it is not intended that sabotage injure the consumer, but is directed only at the heart and soul of the employer, namely, his pocketbook. They claim also that permanent destruction of a machine is not intended, rather mere temporary disabling. It is only means to an end, they say. The general strike is the open warfare, the revolution against the capitalist class. Sabotage is the guerilla warfare.

Yet Walker Smith, I. W. W. editor, says in his work that "sabotage is a direct application of the idea that property has no rights its creators are bound to respect." Further on, he writes that "the question is not, 'is sabotage immoral?' but 'does sabotage get the goods?'" I. W. W. leaders there are aplenty who have preached and written that "sabotage means, and is, destruction."

"Stickerettes" are used to a large extent to advertise sabotage, we learn. These are little posters pasted up wherever it is thought they will do the most good. In addition to a re-



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presentation of a black feline with arched back and other signs of ferocity about him, they carry such admonitions as "Slow down, the hours are long, the pay is small, so take your time and buck them all," or, "Beware, Sabotage. Good pay, bum work." At I. W. W. headquarters "stickerettes" are advertised as "One Big Union" propaganda "with the hot air taken out and a kick added..... Just the thing to wise up the Slave, jolt the Scissor Bill, and throw the fear of the O. B. U. into the Boss." As has already been intimated, the I. W. W. have a language of their own, of which several expressions appear in the advertising matter just quoted. We are instructed in a few of their "idioms" by Mr. McGovern:

Members of the I. W. W. are known as "wobblies" or "wobs." They address each other in speaking or writing as "fellow workers." All "wobs" are not "sab cat." Although all may practise some form of the theoretical sabotage as defined in their books, only a limited number are genuine "cats." The "cats" are not known to the membership at large.

A "high-jack" is a highwayman. Only those are frowned upon who "stick up" a fellow worker. A "scissor bill" is an unorganized workman or a workman who does not belong to the I. W. W. A policeman in a city is referred to usually as a "bull," while a marshall in a smaller town is called the "town clown." An employer is a "boss," a "wageworker" is a "slave" or a "wage-slave," and a farmer is a "rube" or a "John Chinwhiskers."

A "jungle" is a place where the "wobs," or "wobblies," and "scissor bills," congregate to eat and sleep. It usually is at the edge of a town, on the bank of a stream, or in the country. Food is purchased by all, and the "mulligan" or stew is shared by all. In these "jungles" much missionary work is done. The "cat"

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often is turned loose on the "scissor bills," who are thus forced to join the O. B. U. The "O. B. U." means the one big union, the I. W. W. Most "wobblies," closing a letter to a fellow worker, write "yours for the O. B. U." The A. F. of L., the American Federation of Labor, is referred to as the "A. F. of Hell."

Mr. McGovern gives a review of some of the more prominent strikes in which the I. W. W. were active and used sabotage methods prior to 1917, thus demonstrating that the "cat had sharp claws," which we are told is the pet boast of the "wobblies." We read:

The I. W. W. came into national prominence in the strike of the textile-workers of Lawrence, Mass., in 1912. Most of the strikers were foreigners, so that foreign agitators and leaders were employed. They preached violent sabotage, which resulted in frequent clashes between the strikers and police. Joseph Ettor and Arturo Giovannitti, I. W. W., were tried for murder, but were acquitted.

In 1913 a strike of hop-pickers occurred on a ranch at Wheatland, Cal. The district attorney and some deputy sheriffs were called to the ranch and as they were alighting from their rig they were fired upon by the strikers and the attorney and one deputy sheriff were killed. This resulted in the conviction for man-slaughter of Ford and Suhr, two leaders of the strike. Immediately a Ford and Suhr defence committee was organized and C. L. Lambert, former secretary of the Stockton, Cal., local I. W. W. branch, was elected secretary. All means conceivable were adopted to force the release of Ford and Suhr. Stickerettes, intended to intimidate people into thinking that it was unsafe to eat California fruit while Ford and Suhr were in jail, were printed by thousands. Also they would continually suggest reprisals to the "sab cats."

Lambert's letter to Haywood and other officers of the I. W. W. during the years following the conviction of Ford and Suhr are filled with allusions to destruction wrought by "sab cats" and of more to follow. His theory and that of the organization was that by doing enough damage to the "capitalistic class," or "bosses," these enemies of the workers would order their "tools," the courts, to release the men. Without mentioning any of the many specific incidents of destruction claimed by the I. W. W.

in furtherance of their reign of terror to free Ford and Suhr, I will quote Lambert's report of the Ford and Suhr defence committee, made to the tenth convention of the I. W. W. at Chicago on December 1, 1916:

"To the Delegates of the I. W. W."

"Fellow workers: In submitting the financial report of the Wheatland Hop-Pickers' Defence Committee, I believe that it would not be out of place to give some account of the efforts made to effect the release of our imprisoned fellow workers. They were tried and sentenced by the Supreme Court of Yuba County, California, to life imprisonment for their activities in forcing better working and living conditions in the agricultural industry of California. An appeal was taken to the Third Appellate Court and the lower court was upheld. The case was then carried to the Supreme Court of the State for a rehearing, but a rehearing of the case was refused.

"Agitation and action on the job were continually carried on by members of the I. W. W., and the State of California has already paid \$8,000,000 per year (the State's own figures) since 1913 for holding Ford and Suhr in prison. Early in 1915 the case came up, on a petition for pardon, before the Governor. The matter, so far as Governor Johnson was concerned, lay dormant for more than nine months. He then made the statement that he would not consider the cases of Ford and Suhr further until sabotage and threats of sabotage were stopped.

"It is not generally known that more than forty members of the I. W. W. languish in prisons in California, serving sentences ranging from one to six years, for their activities, nor that two of our members have been killed in the fight with the employing class of California, for the freedom of Ford and Suhr. These things have not dampened our spirits in the least nor have they altered our determination to keep banging away at them until either Ford and Suhr are free or until we are all in prison with them.

"We do not want money from the general organization. We can get along without that; but what we do want is men and lots of men who are willing to help us battle the employing class of California by any and all means at our command for the freedom of Richard Ford and Herman Suhr.

"Yours for the O. B. U.

"C. L. LAMBERT, Secretary."

Among affairs in which the I. W. W. have taken a prominent part in the West is one which took place at Everett, Washington, and is known to the brotherhood as "Bloody Sunday." It is said to be recalled every year by the holding of memorial services for the fellow workers who were killed on that occasion. It is set out as follows:

A strike was called first among the shingle-workers. The I. W. W. sent into the town a flood of speakers and agitators, many of whom were arrested. Feeling ran so high and conditions became so bad that a vigilance committee of citizens was formed to help the authorities. Many of the

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"wobs" were harshly treated. Finally, the "wobs" sent notice that they were coming to take possession of the town. They chartered a boat, the *Verona*, at Seattle, loaded it with several hundred "fellow workers," and shoved off for Everett. At the dock the boat was met by Don McRae, sheriff, and a number of special deputies.

As the boat neared the dock, McRae shouted, "Boys, who is your leader?"

"We have no leader; we are all leaders," was the answer.

"You can't land here," replied the sheriff.

That is as far as the parleying proceeded.

There was a volley from the boat and several citizens fell. The citizens returned the fire and many I. W. W. were wounded and several killed. In a rush to get on the other side of the boat away from the fire of the citizens, the "wobblies" nearly capsize the *Verona*. Several I. W. W.'s were said to have fallen overboard into the slip. McRae was wounded several times and his clothing and hat riddled with bullets. Some of the I. W. W. were tried for murder, but the jury disagreed.

The incident and the trial received much publicity throughout the country. A defence committee was formed and I. W. W. speakers toured the country collecting funds and proclaiming how their fellow workers were murdered in Everett. They have always contended that they merely intended to hold a peaceable mass-meeting on the streets of Everett to advertise the cruel methods of the cit-

izens' committee to the people of that district.

The following telegram sent from J. A. McDonald, editor of *The Industrial Worker*, official I. W. W. paper at Seattle, to James P. Thompson, I. W. W. organizer in jail at Everett, will show exactly what the I. W. W. planned to do at Everett:

"Seattle, Washington,  
August 23, 1916.

"James P. Thompson,  
City Jail, Everett, Wash.

"Greetings: Wish I was there to enjoy the fun. *The Industrial Worker* is calling for a bunch to educate the mayor and chief of police there till they shiver every time they hear I. W. W. I would rather be with you in jail than Mayor of Everett when the I. W. W. gets in action. Am letting a yell for the necessary number of the 13,000 who have been raising hell in the Dakotas. The idiots in charge there are crazy. They will be worse when we get through with them. We will use sabotage and any other tactics, as, seeing the officers have gone outside the law, it is useless to consider methods. Don't compromise. Tell them to go to hell.

"J. A. McDONALD."

Both McDonald and Thompson were convicted at Chicago.

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